THE IDAHO CENTER FOR AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND THE ENVIRONMENT (CAFE)
CAFE OVERVIEW

3 LOCATIONS – A REGIONAL MODEL

- Rupert (Minidoka County)
  Site for the research dairy

- Jerome – Crossroads @ I-84/Hwy 93 (Jerome County)
  Site for the outreach/education center, classrooms, dorms, pavilion, labs/offices for faculty

- Twin Falls – CSI campus (Twin Falls County)
  Site for the food processing/workforce training/educational facility

5 PROGRAMMATIC AREAS

1. Animal related research/value added/robotics/genomics
2. Agronomic research/crop rotation/soil & water health/nutrient management
3. Food science research on the CSI campus
4. Outreach/Extension at the crossroads
5. Workforce training/education at the crossroads and on the CSI campus
DEVELOPING A FRAMEWORK FOR AGRICULTURAL SUSTAINABILITY IN THE MAGIC VALLEY

- **CAFE** will be run like a commercial farm and host a variety of on-going research & demonstration experiments managed by UI faculty and staff.

- **CAFE** will support UI’s Extension/outreach and education missions by hosting field days, class field trips, undergraduate interns, and graduate student research.

- At CAFE we:
  - cultivate partnerships and knowledge-sharing with farmers and growers
  - conduct collaborative agroecological research to address major 21st-century agricultural challenges
  - monitor and measure how agricultural systems can adapt to a changing climate
  - collaborate with industry for the development of new agricultural technologies
Idaho is valued because of the **quality of the crops** we produce. It is becoming more and more common for large buyers to focus on where crops are grown and the **terroir** associated with that production.

Given current production practices in the **Magic Valley**, will we be producing the same high-quality **malt barley**, **potatoes** and **sugarbeets** that the area is famous for thirty years from now?

A 30-year agricultural sustainability study/demonstration is being planned.
DEVELOPING A FRAMEWORK FOR AGRICULTURAL SUSTAINABILITY IN THE MAGIC VALLEY

- Part of what CAFE will do is to measure the long-term impacts of crop rotation, maintaining a healthy soil, soil erosion, farming systems (conventional, organic and mixed) and inputs of water, nitrogen, carbon, and other elements on agricultural sustainability.

- Sustainability is indicated by long-term trends in yield, quality, profitability, resource-use efficiency (such as water or energy), and environmental impacts.

- CAFE will also host shorter-term experiments focused on investigating the sustainability and environmental impacts of agriculture. Microplots within each plot allow research on questions such as comparisons of irrigation methods, fertilization rates, and incorporation of composts and other nutrient-related products.
Outreach and Education Center
- Located at Crossroads Point in Jerome
- Intersection of Hwy 93 and I-84
- High visibility
- Research laboratories and housing
- Tells the story of Idaho agriculture

Research Dairy
- Located in Rupert, within 50mi of outreach center
- Off-site location ensures biosecurity
- Build a new facility on permitted land
- 1,000 – 2,000 cows

Food Processing Education
- Located on the CSI campus adjacent to vocational training center
- Focus on expanding future workforce
- Food processing research conducted
CAFE IS DEFINED BY PARTNERSHIPS

- University of Idaho; College of Southern Idaho; Brigham Young University, Idaho; Boise State University
- Idaho Legislature/Governor, Jerome 20/20
- Idaho Dairymen’s Association, Idaho Farm Bureau Federation, Idaho Barley Commission, Idaho Wheat Commission, Idaho Grain Producers Association, Amalgamated Sugar, Glanbia, Chobani, among others
CAFE IS DEFINED BY PARTNERSHIPS

While CAFE is a critical development to ensure the sustainability of Idaho’s dairy industry for generations to come, the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation recognizes the impact CAFE will have across our entire agricultural industry and the value that will provide to our members and all Idaho producers.

Jerome 20/20 has shown over the past three years that we strongly support this entire project not just in word but in action. The dairy industry is in a state of flux. The Café Project is needed now more than ever. We will do everything within our ability and scope of influence to bring this project to fruition.
OUTREACH/EDUCATION @ CAFE

IDA SUPPORT

While the research CAFE conducts will be critical to the sustainability of our industry into the future, Idaho agriculture as a whole stands to benefit from its development.

The outreach and education center, for example, will be an opportunity to showcase the history of agriculture in our state and address important topics related to water and soil health, food access and sustainability and the basic concept about where food comes from for all Idahoans.

This type of engaging outreach for one of the state’s top industries will be a tide that rises all ships for Idaho agriculture.
IDAHO CAFE
PROJECTED COST AND TIMELINE

- Estimated **COST** of the project is $45 million
  - UI/CALS contribution: $15 million
  - Legislative support: $15 million
  - Industry support: $15 million

- Anticipated **TIMELINE** for the project
  
  **Immediate Efforts**
  - March 2019 – Purchased dairy land in partnership with Idaho Dairymen’s Association
  - August 2019 – Land to be purchased for the outreach and education center

  **Ongoing Efforts**
  - Current – Design work for both the research dairy and the outreach and education center
  - Current – Fundraising efforts to support the development of the project
  - Current – Discussions with CSI to develop the food processing pilot plant and shared educational offerings, first classes in Fall ‘19

  **Future Efforts**
  - 2023 – Outreach and education center welcomes first visitors
  - 2024 – First cows milked at the dairy
THANK YOU

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